

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

BELL

Atty. Ref.: 11-908

Serial No. Unassigned

Group: Unassigned

Filed: November 7, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: USE OF WASTE CARPET AS FILLER

\* \* \* \* \*

November 7, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Add the following claims:

--15. A method of recycling waste carpeting and forming a useful intermediate product, comprising the steps of:

- (a) collecting waste carpeting containing calcium carbonate and at least one of a thermoplastic resin, nylon and caprolactam; and
- (b) reducing the waste carpeting to a predetermined particle size in a range of 50-100 to 95-325 wherein the first number represents the percentage of the

**BELL**

Serial No. **Unassigned**

waste carpeting which pass through a mesh screen having a mesh size corresponding to the second number.

16. A method according to Claim 15 wherein step (b) includes grinding the waste carpeting.

17. A method according to Claim 15 wherein step (b) including grinding the waste carpeting to produce particles having a particle size in a range of about 78-200.

18. A method according to Claim 15 wherein the waste carpeting of step (a) contains calcium carbonate 50-70%, a thermoplastic resin mixture 0-45%, nylon 0-45% and caprolactam 0-8%, said percentages being by weight.

19. A method according to Claim 15, including processing the reduced waste carpeting to provide a final useful product, the step of processing including combining the waste carpeting in a molten resin to form the useful process.--

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: Richard Besha

Richard G. Besha  
Reg. No. 22,770

RGB:alm

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100